

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Petition of WorldCom, Inc. Pursuant to Section)	
252(e)(5) of the Communications Act for)	CC Docket No. 00-218
Preemption of the Jurisdiction of the Virginia)	
State Corporation Commission Regarding)	
Interconnection Disputes with Verizon Virginia)	
Inc., and for Expedited Arbitration)	
)	
Petition of AT&T Communications of Virginia)	
Inc., Pursuant to Section 252(e)(5) of the)	
Communications Act for Preemption of the)	CC Docket No. 00-251
Jurisdiction of the Virginia Corporation)	
Commission Regarding Interconnection Disputes)	
With Verizon Virginia Inc.)	
)	
)	

ORDER

Adopted: February 6, 2003

Released: February 9, 2003

By the Chief, Pricing Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On January 29, 2004, the Wireline Competition Bureau released a Memorandum Opinion and Order in the above-captioned matters that set forth the rates that Verizon Virginia, Inc. (Verizon) may charge AT&T Communications of Virginia, Inc. (AT&T) and WorldCom, Inc. (WorldCom) for access to unbundled network elements, interconnection, and resale.¹ These rates became effective upon the release of the order on January 29, 2004.² The *Virginia Arbitration Compliance Order* further required that Verizon and AT&T, and Verizon and WorldCom, amend their respective interconnection agreements to incorporate the rates set forth therein by February 9, 2004.³

2. On February 5, 2004, Verizon submitted a motion for an extension of time, requesting an additional 30 days (until March 10, 2004) for the parties to file their interconnection agreement

¹ *Petition of WorldCom, Inc. Pursuant to Section 252(e)(5) of the Communications Act for Preemption of the Jurisdiction of the Virginia State Corporation Commission Regarding Interconnection Disputes with Verizon Virginia Inc., and for Expedited Arbitration*, CC Docket Nos. 00-218, 00-251, Memorandum Opinion and Order, DA 04-181 (WCB rel. Jan. 29, 2004) (*Virginia Arbitration Compliance Order*), as corrected by *Petition of WorldCom, Inc. Pursuant to Section 252(e)(5) of the Communications Act for Preemption of the Jurisdiction of the Virginia State Corporation Commission Regarding Interconnection Disputes with Verizon Virginia Inc., and for Expedited Arbitration*, CC Docket Nos. 00-218, 00-251, Erratum, DA 04-281 (WCB rel. Feb. 5, 2004).

² *Virginia Arbitration Compliance Order*, at para. 42. Switching rates became effective as of August 1, 2002. *Id.*

³ *Id.* at paras. 41, 45-46; *see also* 47 C.F.R. § 1.4.

amendments.⁴ Verizon claims that this extension is necessary for the parties to “determine, and agree on, how to apply the ordered rates in the context of the rate structures and other terms in their agreements and whether those related terms themselves require some changes.”⁵ Verizon states that it is not seeking to alter the effective dates of the ordered rates.⁶ Finally, Verizon indicates that AT&T and WorldCom both “consent to the relief sought in [Verizon’s] motion.”⁷

II. DISCUSSION

3. Verizon’s *Motion* for an extension of time until March 10, 2004 for the parties to submit amendments to their interconnection agreements to incorporate the rates ordered in the *Virginia Arbitration Compliance Order* is granted. It is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time are not routinely granted.⁸ We find, however, that there is good cause to extend the due date for filing interconnection agreement amendments. Verizon explains that ten days is not sufficient time for the parties to analyze the rates set forth in the *Virginia Arbitration Compliance Order* and to agree upon the amendments necessary to incorporate those rates. Further, Verizon confirms that, if granted a brief extension of time, “[t]he parties *will* . . . submit the resulting amendments . . . by March 10, 2004.”⁹ Finally, because neither AT&T nor WorldCom opposes the *Motion*, granting the extension will not prejudice any party.

4. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to sections 4(i), 4(j), and 5(c) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 154(j) 155(c), and sections 0.91, 0.291, and 1.46 of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91, 0.291, 1.46, the request for an extension of time filed by Verizon Virginia, Inc. IS GRANTED.

By Order of the Pricing Policy Division,

Tamara L. Preiss
Chief, Pricing Policy Division
Wireline Competition Bureau

⁴ *Petition of WorldCom, Inc. Pursuant to Section 252(e)(5) of the Communications Act for Preemption of the Jurisdiction of the Virginia State Corporation Commission Regarding Interconnection Disputes with Verizon Virginia Inc., and for Expedited Arbitration*, CC Docket Nos. 00-218, 00-251, Verizon Virginia Inc.’s Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time to File Amendments to Interconnection Agreements at 1-2 (filed Feb. 5, 2004) (*Motion*).

⁵ *Id.* at 2.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a)

⁹ *Motion* at 2 (emphasis added).